APR 2 9 2004

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Jes Broeng, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2877

Serial No .:

09/282,303

Examiner:

Philip Sana Natividad

Filed:

March 31, 1999

For:

A PHOTONIC BAND GAP FIBER

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 (RCE)

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of December 29, 2003, and corresponding to the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks.

Listing of Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 21 of this paper.